DYNAMIC MEMORIES™

™ Tandy Corp./Radio Shack Inc.

MAY 85
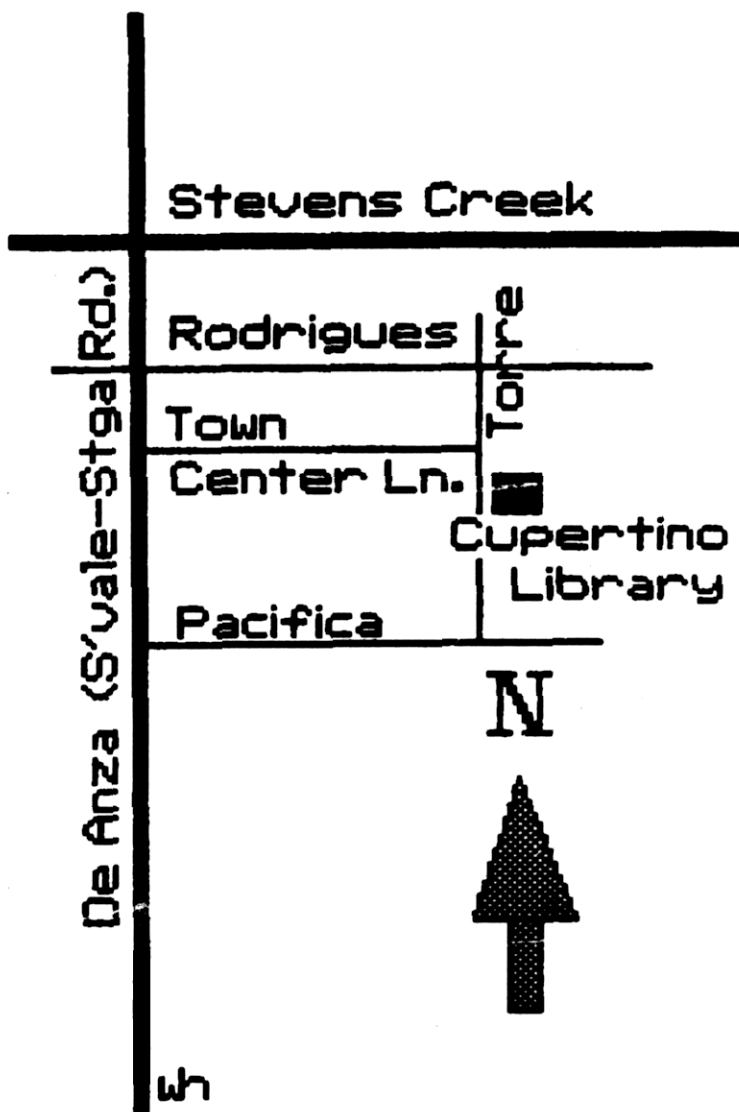
Stevens Creek

De Anza (S'vale-Stga Rd.)

Rodrigues

Town

Center Ln.

Torre

Cupertino Library

Pacifica

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SBUG meetings are held in the Cupertino library at 10400 Torre Ave.

Time: 7:15 - 9:30 PM

May 21, June 17, July 16.

7:30 to 8:00 will be for new members and to resolve questions asked by the nonexperts amongst us. Led or followed by the editor as the case may be. Principal subject: utilities. Bernie Thomson will speak on SUPER UTILITY. I am attempting to line up other speakers.

LOOK!OJO!REGARDEZ!::O wing to the loss of the Dynas auditorium, we are still trying to revitalize the SIGS. Specifically, we wish to have a model 100 group, a CP/M group, and a MSDOS group. Gather your brethren around you and **do your thing to get these going.

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to become a member of SBUG and start receiving our newsletter "DYNAMIC MEMORIES", then send $18 (check or moneyorder) to the following address;

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca.94088

or come to one of our meetings. If you also wish to communicate with our bulletin board system (SBUG-80) then include an additional $25 (a one time fee) for an acount on the system. You must be a member of SBUG to have an account on the system. Please include your address and phone number.

¶¶

YOUR STEERING COMMITTEE

MEMBER	SBUG-80 USERNAME	PHONE
Discussion Leader:		
Wright Huntley	(HUNTLEY)	(408) 248-5905
Treasurer		
Don Rhodes	(DON)	(408) 996-1008
Secretary		
Eric Brewer	(BREWER)	(408) 996-3791
Newsletter Editor		
Joel Lee	(EDITOR)	(408) 926-3999
Librarians:		
(disc) Bernie Thompson	(BERNIE)	(408) 867-7455
(tape) Gary Dixon	(GDIXON)	(408) 262-6937
(docs) Pete Fratus	(FRATUS)	(408) 258-8389
SBUG-80 Sysop:		
Robert Byrd	(SYSOP)	(408) 945-9990

OTHER KEY INDIVIDUALS

Cover Artist:		
Wright Huntley		
Host Computer:		
SBUG-80	(EVERYONE)	(408) 946-2286

If the need arises, feel free to give any one of us a call.

THE EDITOR'S BITES & BYTES

The following is a minority opinion. As a matter of fact, I seem to be a minority of one. So treat me gently and give me all those tolerances, allowances and breaks that are always promised to minorities (and which they almost never get).

I continue to believe that we should become a computer club and cease to be a TRS-80 club. Do not turn your stony, unsmiling face to me. Hear me. Better yet, listen to me. Currently we have owners of Models I, III, 4, 1000 and 2000 in the club. The I, III and 4 of course run proprietory DOSes. There is a reason for having a club to attend their specific needs.

What else do many of them run? CP/M! Aha, gotcha. Nothing machine specific about CP/M. Au contraire. The 1000 and 2000 run MSDOS. All the people who are running these DOSes are actually being stifled, not helped, by belonging to a company specific (for it is no longer machine specific as it was when there was only the model I).

I own a Model 4. I intend to keep it. I already have CP/M which I intend to learn (real soon now). In 1986 I plan on hooking up a 16 bit board to my Model 4, and running MSDOS as well. Why? Because I want to know what's out there. Then I will be operating in TRSDOS 6.X, CP/M, and MSDOS. Wouldn't it be nice if I could get input on all of these, in the widest possible fashion, from my club?

NEW MEETING PLACE

The new meeting place, home of SBUG, will be the Cupertino Library located at 10400 Torre Avenue. Our brilliant cartographer, Wright Huntley, has supplied us with a map. As the cleverest amongst you may have noted, it is on the cover of this issue of DYNAMIC MEMORIES. Guard it carefully, it may be your only salvation on Tuesday, May 21st.

Personal credit for the map as noted above, goes to Wright Huntley, the program he uses is PC PAINT.

COMMING EVENTS

In the May meeting we will be privileged to hear Bernie Thompson speak on SU (Super Utility). It will be a rare opportunity to hear from someone thoroughly familiar with a program that even non programmers can use to their advantage. You'll be sorry if you miss this one.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article is by a member of that vanishing, but still unprotected species, the hardware hacker. The govenment went to great lengths to see that the snail darter did not disappear. What will it do to save the rare G. McKee?

It is worth drawing your attention to the fact, that as with most hardware projects of this amplitude there is information that all of us, including the screwdriver hackers like myself, can turn to our occasional advantage. Read and enjoy and learn:

MAX IV BY 4

by GERALD MCKEE

What has 128K memory, high-res graphics, sound, a white case, and four DOUBLE SIDED drives???. For the information of the ignorant amongst you, it's a custom computer by GMCKEE.

I call it (fondly) the MAX IV by 4.

The project was long in the back of my mind. However, double sided half-height were not available at any price that would make the project a reasonable undertaking, economically speaking. Then came the REMEX 2/3 height drives, and I had to go. As with everything I have undertaken in the Radio Shack realm, I fell into several traps along the way.

I began with a bare, 16K, cassette model 4. $399 plus tax. I bought the remaining parts (except the RAM ICs) from R/S parts in San Antonio.

I wanted:
    RS-232C
    128K MEMORY
    Hi-Res Graphics
    Sound
    4 internal floppys

This necessitated the purchase of:
          128K button (I am strict about esthetics)
          16 IC chips, 64K type (Hitachi as I remember)
          Programable Array Logic IC
          Sound adapter board and interconnect cable
          65 watt power supply
          R/S disk controller PC card
          Right and left R/S disk mounting brackets
          Right and left R/S disk shields
          Power cabling for P.S. to RS-232, to disk controller, and to disk
          drives
          Jumper cables for disk controller and RS-232 to main logic board
          connection
          Special 4 drive disk cable to controller card

     First problem. The case does not accomodate 4 2/3 height drives without cutting. Sensibly, I wanted to keep the NEW Model 4 intact, in case I had to go back to Radio Shack for some catastrophic failure. I promptly evicted sensibility along with caution and common sense.

     I cut out the separator bar with a power saw then drilled new holes into the disk mounting towers and shields. Next I knocked off the plastic extrusion that had supported the upper drive. Finally I snapped off the extrusions still remaining inside the case (above the drive location). Now I had four drives mounted temporarily in the towers.

     I was abruptly reminded that hackers must hack. When I tried to fit the result into the case, I found that the drive 0 door could not be opened, and the case would not set down completely, because drive 3 was slightly too tall! I immediately renamed drive 3 to drive Jones. The problems were cured by notching out the case to accomodate the drive 0 door latch, and rounding off the outer front face of drive 3.

     The next mounting problem I faced was that caused by the drive cable. It protrudes from the rear of the drives when attached, in such a manner as to prevent the mountiong of the drives in their tower locations. That required cutting off some of the rear angle bracket of each (left & right) tower piece and shield, to permit proper cable connection.

     The Radio Shack disk controller is designed to allow only two drives to be addressed within the case enclosure. I jumpered the drive 2 & 3 lines to the appropriate internal connector positions. Next, I found the internal drives were enabled ONLY for drive 0 & 1 access, so I had to permanently disable external drives by tying the proper IC pin to +5 volts.

     The most disconcerting discovery I made was the discrepancy in the Radio Shack cable design. A loyal R/S person, I had followed their logic of pulling pins 32 from all connectors, and pins 10,12 and 14 from drives not being addressed by those lines. BIG MISTAKE! It became apparent that the reason I could not use the drives in double sided mode, was that pin 32 was missing! Pin 32 selects side 0 or side 1, based upon whether it is carrying a high or low condition. The cure for that problem was to fabricate a totally new drive cable having all the pins in place, and address the drives accordingly. It was then that I discovered that I

had my REMEX drives addressed improperly. This I corrected by moving a couple of jumpers.

Finally I found the REMEX permits jumpering so that the drive motors run only when that particular drive is addressed. Result, the quietest possible drive system. Nothing quieter west of Cathay.

Should you become obsessed with the idea of obtaining one of these "MAX IV by 4" models, I will be glad to accomodate you. I will accept recent model Rolls and Lamborginis as trade ins. (Ptooey on Mercedes Benz)

O.K., so I exaggerate. Benvenuto Cellini, my fellow artist was also an exaggerator. I have some $1735.00 and change invested as you can see by the following statistics:

Model 4 (16K cassette model tax included)	$430.00
Towers/shields/power supply/power cables/drive cable	160.00
Disk controller/PAL/128K/hi-res graphics/sound	600.00
REMEX drives/RS-232/128K button(and drive adj/rep)	545.00
80 hours worktime. $3.25 to $55.00 per hour	????
Approximate total	$1735.00

Think about it! Think long and hard! Can you really do without the warm feeling of 1.2 megabytes on line without the hassle of a hard disk?

Would you like 3 internal disks and a hard disk? It can be yours. Just pop for the hardware and:

Gerald F. McKee
SIX-S-ENTERPRISES
(408) 943-9489
SBUG-80 GMCKEE

will be happy to oblige.

MEMBERS, 'PHONE #S & IMPENETRABLE ALIASES

The following is in response to a request for the telephone numbers and noms de bulletin board of the members of our sacred club. I am responsible for any and all errors. Please don't call me about it. Don't even mention it to me. It was a horrendous job putting it in order. Who was the donkey who used to do this when we had 200 members?

ANDERSON ROGER A
408 732-4307
ROGERAND

ANDERSON WES
493-3330
WESTON

ANDREWS BRUCE
591-3199

ANTICOUNI STAN

578-8550
STAN

BABCOCK DEAN F.
851-8195
BABCOCK

BARTO ROBERT NIBLERS
782-5081
RBARTO

BENNETT WILLIAM C.

595-2537
BENNETT

BLAINE DICK A.
257-6410
BLAINE

BREWER ERIC
~~252-9332~~ 9963791
BREWER

BROWN ROBERT W.
379-2774
SAMBROWN

~~BYRD ROBERT J.~~
~~2945-0000~~
~~SYSOP~~

CAMPBELL JAMES F.
5965-2954
RON

CARRE DON
354-2767
CARRE

CHAMBERLAIN CONRAD
736-2208
CHAMBRLN

DIXON GARY
262-6937
GDIXON

FLADAGER JO
7867-6405

FORBES ROSS W.
948-5193
FORBES

FRATUS PETE
6258-8389
FRATUS

GEORGE BRIAN F.
494-0561

GIGUERE GEORGE
8255-8369
GIGGY

GIOVINCO ROSEANN C.

872-2514

GLATHE WILLIAM Q.
268-7251
FLYPAA

GOLDBERG ARTHER
3265-6419
GOLDBUG

GONSALVES JIM
246-5286
MANGR

GUNDERSON LARRY C.
259-5349
TREAS

HERBACH MICHAEL J.
4629-6949
HERBACH

HOOVER EDWARD F.
961-3410
HOOVER

HUNTLEY WRIGHT H.
248-5905
HUNTLEY

JONES CLARENCE
281-0898

KEMP JR. CHESTER A.
KEMP

KEPPEL ROBERT D.
253-5928

KING GERALD R.

KONIGSBERG ROBERT
BOBK

LYNCH JOHN & DONNA
252-4491
JLYNCH

MCCALL WALTER A.
2378-5190
WALTMC

MCKEE GERALD F.
~~7926-4063~~ 943-9489

GMCKEE

MCLENNAN   MICHAEL P.
9649-181

NICHOLS CORWIN
424-9409

OLSON GEORGE E.
8785-2162

OMAN   CHRIS K.
966-5461
KOMAN

PARKER CASEY
793-2715
CASEY

PERRY   DAVID D.
8730-8175

ROCHE   CURT
494-2643
CURT

ROGGE   RICK
297-5890

RUSSO MIKE J.
266-3988
MIKER

SCHULZE HENRY
866-5731
HANK

SMITH   ROBERT
244-1841

SMITH   VIGO N.
996-7896
VIGO

STEPHANSEN   LEROY F.
2997-1895

TERRAZAS CARLOS C.
224-3695

THOMPSON   BERNARD
867-7455
BERNIE

THOMPSON   JIM
SIXTSIX

TIMM VERNON
734-2443

WALLIS   WALTER
969-7636

WARD CHARLES R.
245-7688
CHUCK

WEBB   IAN A.
867-9533
IANWEBB

WEST E. J.
257-8752
WEST

WILEY   MARVIN D.
255-1438
MARV

MARKUM   MARK
969-1246

TAL   JOHNATHAN
287-7337

SPIKES HARRY
378-3735

GRENIER   DAVID
946-9293
GRENIER

RHODES   DON
996-1008
DON

BOEGMAN   BOB
268-7570

WHITMORE   RICHARD
249-4428

CAMPODONICO   STEVE
554-6133
DAKOTA

LANE NORMAN
866-7610

NLLANE   293-9342

NGUYEN   KIET T.   THOMPSON   RONAL
739-6470   378-1723

SMITH   LEROY D.   MC CONKEY MIKE
293-8554   MIKEM

ANDERSON JOHN   JAMES JASON
281-1167   LJJAMES

PADDOCK STAN

WHERE THE WARE IS

The following is by Mike Shuck of Alva, Oklahoma, as quoted in Bruce Tonkin's "TNT SOFTWARE USER'S NEWSLETTER #7".

"#1. UNDERWARE: This software is constantly UNDER development, which means it is UNDER-developed. This is software you keep asking others about, but they've never heard of it. One thing about UNDER-WARE; it is never UNDER-rated nor UNDER-sold.

#2. WASH'N WARE: This software is WASHed out when it runs, and WASHed up, finished, before it is started. It is developed by non-programmers who buy $200 dissassemblers. They then dissasemble commercial machine language programs, convert them to BASIC, then change the line numbers and copyright notice. They buy $100 BASIC compilers to convert this "new" program back into a machine language program which runs 3 times slower than the converted-into-BASIC version.

#3. B-WARE: B-WARE is an acronym for "beware". It is analagous to the B movies of the fifties. It lacks class, style, plot, developement, quality and color. However, some "B" programmers may someday B-come president. One program listed as B-ware is "CAVEAT EMPTOR", an adventure program about a 13 year-old hacker and his search to buy a holy hard-disk interface for his Sinclair 1000.

#4. NO-WARE: This software has been around since the 4K Model I Level I's and the Apple I. It makes the computer convert ASCII characters input via the keyboard into tokenized, binary forms the computer can understand. Of course the computer already does this task itself. But the advantage of a NO-WARE program is that it requires NO memory overhead. The program is recorded on tape which contains only a loader. This leaves extra memory the VIC 20's so desperately needs for running "CAVEAT EMPTOR". Load this one first. NO-WARE? NO way!

#5. HAIR-WARE: This is a disk-cleaning kit consisting of 18 grit circular sandpaper and software to make it do an adequate job of cleaning your cat's fur balls from your drive heads. Because of low sales, a high-priced marketing, advertising firm was called in to improve the package and publicity. Their first change was the name. It was changed to "NAIR-WARE" until a major depilatory comnpany sued for trademark infringement.

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#6. A-WARE: Purchasing this program makes the computer user AWARE of all the programs described above. I recommend it."

THE EDITORS RAMBLINGS OR
INSANITY IS RELATIVE

On thinking over the direction the club is taking, it occurs to me that it really isn't necesary to push for a many-splendored club. It already is, and becoming increasing more so at an increasing acceleration.

I would guess that at least 50% of the members own machines that operate with non TRSDOS systems. If CP/M is included, you can probably make that 60%. History is making us, we aren't making history.

Bruce Tonkin quotes a rumor that Tandy will come out with a MSDOS compatible board to stuff into the Model 4. He does it tongue in cheek, more of a prodding of Tandy than something to be believed. If Tandy were to do that, I would certainly buy it, and the only way you could get my Model 4 away from me would be at pistol point. A very large pistol. If it were possible to make this fairy board compatible with Models I-III, think of the huge sale it would have!

Gerry McKee, hardware hacker, put your nose to the grindstone! Uncountable millions await you.

Most of you are aware that 2400 baud is here, at work, and within the price range of most of us. Of course, if you haven't anyone to talk to at 2400 baud, the baud is just a gaud.

The Japanese (NEC) expect to have the megabyte chip in production in 1986. What good will it do me? I don't know a million things worth putting on a chip. I don't know a million things.

There is lots of good news for us on the economic front. SSDD disks are now being advertised at 95 cents each for boxes of 10. Plug in and go hard disks can be gotten at $695.00. Radio Shack will sell you a Model 4 portable for $665 that includes the Model III Rom image, previously missing. I don't have any information on the configuration.

MAIL

<Message from SYSOP   at SBUG-80 04/16/85 00:22:19>
RE: The *logout command is now fixed...
Read command :
Hi again...
 I think..I have fixed the *LOGOUT instruction.
Gerry Mckee and I discovered a bad RS232c cable.
I also discoverd and fixed a bug that hangs up
the system when users read mail. Please let me
know if you notice any more bugs. This is a new
system not the well established system that everyone
is use to.
Rob... (408) 945-9990
Read command :
<Message from ROGERAND at SBUG-80 04/16/85 16:40:14>

RE: BUGS
Read command :
HI BOB IT LOOKS LIKE THE USER MAIL SECTION IS WORKING
AGAIN.
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK
Read command :
<Message from ROGERAND at SBUG-80 04/16/85 16:44:51>
RE: STOLEN STUFF
Read command :
HEY BOB, DO YOU HAVE ANY SERIAL NUMBERS ON THE
MISSING ITEMS?
IF SO MAYBE WE AS A CLUB CAN BE ON THE LOOK OUT
FOR THE ITEMS AT SWAP MEETS AND/OR FLEA MARKETS
ALSO GARAGE SALES.
Read command :
<Message from ROGERAND at SBUG-80 04/17/85 17:48:46>
RE: MODEL 4P SALE
Read command :
LIPSET FROM THE RADIO SHACK COMPUTER CENTER
ON EL CAMINO IN MT. VIEW TOLD ME THAT THE
MODEL 4P WILL GO ON SALE FOR $649.00.
YES $649.00
IF YOU CONTACT HIM ,PERSONALLY, HE WILL TAKE
YOUR ORDER NOW.
HE DID NOT SAY WHEN DELIVERY WOULD BE MADE.
Read command :
<Message from SYSOP   at SBUG-80 04/17/85 19:56:55>
RE: STOLEN EQUIPMENT
Read command :
Good idea Roger!
   As a mater of fact...I engraved - SBUG-80 - on every
component belonging to SBUG. Could everyone be on the
look out for Model I equipment for sale? Take a look
at the equipment carefully and you will see the engraved
marking. The power supply for the 5 1/4" disk drive
had an orange cover and could house two drives. The
expansion interface had a LNW 5/8 card and the keyboard
had the Holmes Sprinter speed up. I'll bet the crook
knows nothing about computers and may not take the
SBUG-80 engraving as any kind of serial number. If
we all keep our eyes open we may find it!
Rob...
Read command :
<Message from SYSOP   at SBUG-80 04/17/85 19:59:25>
RE: The *logout command.
Read command :
Roger Says that the *logout function is still not
working...is this true for everyone else? There
may still be a problem...since they also stole
my Model 100, I have no way to test the system.
Rob...
Read command :
<Message from JOHNA   at SBUG-80 04/18/85 22:42:17>
Read command :

SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, I HAVE A FRIEND LOOKING
FOR A MODEL 1 EXPANSION INTERFACE. I JUST THOUGHT
THAT WHILE ROB WAS LOCATING SOME REPLACEMENTS, HE OR
SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT HAVE LOCATED A DUPLICATE OR TWO.
PLEASE CONTACT ME, JOHN ANDERSON, AT 281-1167 (EVES)
Read command :
<Message from EDITOR   at SBUG-80 04/19/85 00:48:17>
RE: STOLEN GOODS
Read command :
The burglar undoubtedly thinks that SBUG is what you
see when you OD. It is an excellent idea for all of
us to keep our eyes open. I think there are still some
bugs in the mail system. After about half the SYSOP's
message of 04/14 I started getting garbage that wouldn't
stop. (Or was it one of the many languages I am not fam-
iliar with?) This is not a complaint, it's information.
I hope all the members of the steering committee will
show up this Saturday at the usual watering hole.
Attendance at the last meeting was extremely scarce,
and that was a pity because the theme—DOSes—and the
presentation was one of the best we've had since I have
been a member. To hammer it home, the NEXT meeting will
be at the Cupertino library—not the Santa Clara library
as I mistaken said in the April newsletter. I expect to
get further and further ahead with the newsletters, and
you can expect to get your December newsletter in July.
Read command :
<Message from ROGERAND at SBUG-80 04/19/85 09:02:04>
RE: NEWS LETTER
Read command :
 I THINK DECEMBER IN JULY IS A LITTLE EARLY.
COULD YOU MAKE IT DECEMBER IN AUGUST?
 I LIKE THE EARLY ARRIVAL OF THE LETTER
 YOU MISSED A GOOD MEETING IF YOU MISSED
THE LAST ONE.
 I FOUND IT A LITTLE HARD TO FIND THE MEETING
AS I WAS LOST BETWEEN A SYNAGOUGE AND A
CATHLIC CHURCH.
Read command :
<Message from ROGERAND at SBUG-80 04/19/85 09:04:36>
RE: STOLEN SBUG
Read command :
HI BOB,
 WHO DO WE CALL IF WE FIND THE EQUIPMENT?
WHAT POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS JURISTICTION
OVER YOUR BREAK IN?
Read command :
<Message from KURT   at SBUG-80 04/19/85 22:44:43>
RE: FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE
Read command :
I HAVE A VHS PORTABLE VCR FOR SALE AT A VERY
RESONABLE PRICE. AROUND $300.00 ALSO A COLOR CAMERA
PACKAGE PRICE $600.00 OR WILL SPLIT....MAKE AN OFFER.
CONTACT: CURT SCHILD AT 408-448-0448

Read command :
<Message from KURT   at SBUG-80 04/20/85 10:59:22>
RE: ABOVE MSG.
Read command :
ALMOST FORGOT ALSO HAVE A 19" R C A COLOR TV WITH FULL
FEATURE REMOTE CONTROL FOR SALE. ASKING PRICE IS $300/
OFFER. IT IS ONLY TWO YEARS OLD AND IN GREAT SHAPE.
THE WIFE SAYS MY TOYS HAVE GOTTEN IN THE WAY AND SOMETHING
HAS TO GO.....CURT SCHILD 408-448-0448
Read command :
<Message from GMCKEE   at SBUG-80 04/21/85 10:10:55>
RE: Items fr sale
Read command :
By the way, this is being entered using a MACINTOSH!!!
Have a Model III for $300.00 (As-Is, of course)
It needs a ROM A, at least!
has 2 drives, period!
Look it over, if you like.
Would consider trading it for VHS Recorder, or Color
Camera, Curt!
Have Three Model 1, (None of them SBUG), with CP/M
Conversion alternatively available, with High Resolution
Graphics converter, with Expansion Interface, and all
Gold Connectors. Check out and make offer! Other Pgm
goodies available too.
Ready for 1200 Baud yet?
Give me a call. (408)943-9489, or days(work?)
(408)752-3207/08/09/10. Gerry.....GMCKEE
Read command :
<Message from TMMCO   at SBUG-80 04/21/85 16:17:33>
RE: F O R S A L E M O D E L 1
Read command :
i HAVE A MODEL 1 WITH:
   2 DISK DRIVES
   48K RAM
   LOTS OF SOFTWARE
FOR SALE CHEEP MAKE AN OFFER
PHONE 408-274-1376
THANKS,
   KEN
Read command :
<Message from TJ   at SBUG-80 04/22/85 18:30:43>
RE: TURBO PASCAL V.2
Read command :
1 COPY OF TURBO PASCAL VER. 2 FOR SALE
INCLUDING DOCUMENTAION. LOADED ONCE AND
UNREGISTERED. FOR SALE - $30.00 OR WILL
TRADE FOR DS-DD FLOPPIES. RUNS ON MY
COMPAQ, BUT I AM SURE IT WILL RUN ON THE
"OTHER IBM COMPATIBLES" ALSO **FOR SALE**
MONTEZUMA MICRO CP/M, MODEL 4 VER. 2.2
(1984). MASTER DISC USED ONCE. ORIGINAL
DOCUMENTATION. $100.00 FIRM
        TOM PITRE 408 294-2256 EVES

-12-

415 786-1866 9-2 DAYS
THANKS...AND BYE.
Read command :
<Message from JIBBYTRM at SBUG-80 04/23/85 19:45:19>
RE: Radio Shack the only way to go !!
Read command :
Hello all you bugites
  I just returned from training with a number
of computer jocks to learn VAX/VMS.
  Want to know something the majority had in
common ??? They all started on trs80 mod I's
No Apple people or IBM/PC people just Radio
Shack.
  Why ??? Because there was software out there
that we could learn computers on. Utilities that
let us work with the innards of the system. Thanks
to many adventurous pioneers we learned alot about
the present technology.
                    Be proud to own one
                    even an old Model I
        Thanks Radio Shack (Tandy)
Read command :
<Message from JOHNA   at SBUG-80 04/23/85 22:10:41>
RE: MODEM II
Read command :
I'M HAVING TROUBLE USING VIDTEX-PLUS & MODEM II.
THE INSTRUCTIONS SAY TO CONFIGURE THE AUTO-LOG
PROGRAMMING USING 8 BITS (WORD=8). THAT'S FINE.
IF I TRY TO USE 7 BITS THE MODEM WILL NOT ACCEPT
ANY ENTRIES. MODEL 4. I TRIED TO CONV THE
MODEM 80 PROGRAM, BUT IT IS NOT USABLE ON THIS UNIT
BECAUSE IT WAS COPIED TO DISK FROM A MODEL 1 ?
I COULD USE SOME HELP OR IDEAS WITH THIS ONE
Read command :
<Message from GMCKEE   at SBUG-80 04/24/85 05:06:43>
RE: JOHNA PROBLEM'S
Read command :
CANT USE MACINTOSH WITH MOD100 PGRMS NOR
MODEL 4 WITH MODEL I PROGRAMS EITHER!!
EITHER GET OUT OF MODEL 4 MODE< OR
BUY MODEM 80 FOR MODEL 4 COMPUTER (IS IT AVAILABLE?)
AT ANY RATE, YOU AREN'T GOING TO GET THERE FROM
HERE!!!
GMCKEE

        Editor's note: Rogerand's confusion about whether he entered the church
or the synagogue can easily be resolved if he will make an exhaustive physical
examination of himself.

DOING THE MHz WALTZ

The following is quoted from "The Compaq Deskpro" a review in the May BYTE written by Jerry Grady. The times given for the Compaq, IBM, and Apple IIe are Grady's, the times for the Model 4 using "ALLWRITE" are mine, carefully double checked. Compliance with scientific honesty compels me to state that Pete Fratus set up my ALLWRITE program to use the Ramdisk in an extremely efficient way, as you will see.

"Table 1: A comparison of the Compaq Deskpro with the IBM PC and the Apple IIe using WordStar ***. The word processing tests involved a 4000 word document (21K bytes). The Load and Save tests measure how long it takes to load and then save the document. The Search and Scroll tests measure respectively, how long it takes to find the last word in the document and to scroll through the document line by line as fast as possible. *** These tests used an IBM PC with PC-DOS 2.0, 512K bytes of memory, a monchrome display, WordStar 3.3. ** The Apple IIe used Microsoft's Softcard and WordStar 3.3. The Deskpro tests used a Deskpro Model 2 with MS-DOS 2.11 and WordStar 3.3."

EDITOR'S NOTE: The asterisks refer to deletions to references to a database test run on the same machines using dBase II. My computer is a Radio Shack standard Model 4, 128K, using ALLWRITE. The word processing tests involved a 4457 word document (29,402K bytes).

Test	Compaq Deskpro		IBM	Apple IIe	Model 4
	7.14 MHz	4.77 MHz			
Document Load	5.8	6.7	9.9	10.3	7
Document Save	17.9	18.7	24.2	32.3	29
Search	6.9	8.8	10.5	6.6	2
Scroll	7.7	10.6	41.2	46.4	60

Here I should note that Pete's clever use of the Ramdisk speeds up Document Load and Save, it has no effect on Search. Do you think we should tell them? Would it upset them too much? You never know how some people will react when their illusions are shattered. And as the TV ads like to say: THERE'S MORE. The article lists sort and record access times for the database. The times are for 2000 records (200K bytes) Aids Plus won't handle that many records, but both its sort and access times are orders of magnitude faster, given the number of records it does run. (About 400).

Apropos of the above, Jerry Pournelle was asked about the viability of 8 bit computing (C/PM 80 was the subject). He replied that it will be around for a long time. The above time trials are part of the reason. Inexpensive, proven software is another.

Bear in mind that dancing the MHz waltz is not a dime a dance. Dime a Herz, maybe?

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088

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